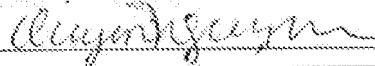


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below.

Date: February 14, 2007

Signature:



(Quyen Nguyen)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/618,841

Confirmation No.: 4346

Filing Date: July 14, 2003

Inventor(s): Lee R. GUTERMAN et al.

Title: ANEURYSM BUTTRESS ARRANGEMENT

Examiner: V. Nguyen

Group Art Unit: 3734

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated December 11, 2006 for which a response is due on March 11, 2007. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.